

58 BC

DURANT

Caesar

At his own expense, and without the authority, he should have sought from the Senate, he raised and equipped four extra legions besides the four already provided him. He sent a peremptory invitation to ARIOVISTUS to come and discuss the situation. Ariovistus refused. Many Gallic tribes asked for Caesar's protection. Caesar declared war against both ARIOVISTUS and the HELVETII, marched northward, and met the Helvetian avalanche

in a bloody battle at BIBRACTE, Capital of the AEDUI,
near the modern AUTON. Caesar's legions won, but by
a narrow margin. The Helvetii offered to return to their
Swiss homeland, Caesar agreed to give them safe passage,
but on condition that their territory should accept the
rule of Rome. Aed Saul now sent him thanks & begged
his aid against ARIOVISTUS. He met the Germans
near OSTHEIM (10 mi west of Rhine, 160 mi north of
Cologne) and slew or captured nearly all of them.
ARIOVISTUS escaped but died soon thereafter.

58BC

DURANT

CLODIUS made the dole completely free to all who came for it. He passed bills through the assembly forbidding the use of religious vetoes against legislative procedures and restoring the legality of the collegia which the senate had tried to disband.

(Clodius was a tribune).

Clodius persuaded the Assembly

to send CATO as commissioner to CYPRUS
and to pass a decree banishing any man
who had put Roman citizens to death with-
out securing, as law required, the
Assembly's consent. Cicero saw that
the measure was aimed at him and
fled to Greece, where they offered him hospitality
and honors. The Assembly decreed that Cicero's
property should be confiscated, and his house
on the Palatine was razed to the ground.

58BC

Cato the younger was sent by law
of Publius CLODIUS to oversee the
annexation of Cyprus

58BC

Lucius Calpurnius Piso
was Consul. He was grandson
of Lucius Calpurnius Piso who
was consul in 12 BC

This Piso was father of Caesar's
wife Calpurnia.

58BC

Gaul was divided into
three major tribes; the
Belgians, the Aquitanians, and
the Gauls (Celts)

The Helvetians were bravest
of the Gauls. They were constantly
at war with the Germans

58 B.C.

Publius Clodius Pulcher
tribune of plebs
He was murdered in 52 B.C.

58 BC

The two new legions raised in the winter of 58 B.C. were the 13th and 14th. This addition brought Caesar's army up to the 8th legions, at which strength it remained until 54 B.C.

58 BC

LUCIUS PISO was consul
(His daughter Calpurnia, married
by Caesar in 59 BC.)

Mar 28 58 B C

In Consulship of Lucius PISO and
Aulus Sabinus, the Helvetii fixed
this day for a general muster on the
bank of the Rhone.

When Caesar was informed that they were
attempting to pass through the Province, he
left Ronaix once and travelled post haste to
the neighborhood of Geneva. He raised

fresh troops throughout the Province and
had the bridge at Geneva destroyed.
The Helvetii sent Nammeius and Verucloetius
and some illustrious citizens to meet with Caesar.
He told them he would consider the matter at
Lecina (so the levied troops could be assembled)
They were to return 13th April

13 April 58 BC

Envoys from the Helvetii returned to Caesar. He told them that it would be contrary to precedent and the traditions of the Roman state to allow anyone to march through the Province, and that if they tried to use force, he would stop them.

Some of the Helvetii lashed boats together and made a number of rafts.

But the Roman troops always hastened up
to the danger points and aided by the fortifications
drove them back with volley of missiles and
forced them to abandon their attempts

58BC

BIBRACTE (AUTUN) Roman
legions under Caesar
routed large Helvetii
Army during Gallic
Wars in present-day
France